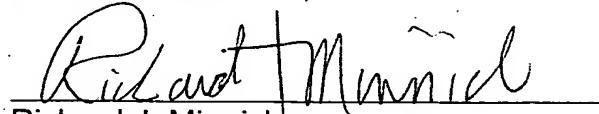


REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is now in better condition for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & MCKEE, LLP



February 4, 2004

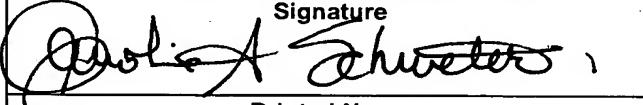
Date

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this Preliminary Amendment is being

- deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.
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